

Menomonie Urban Forestry Board Minutes

November 16, 2022 – 1:00pm – City Hall Rm 258 – 800 Wilson Ave

Committee Members Present:

- Joe Jax (2 hrs)
- Mike Smith (2 hrs)
- Monika Herrmann (2 hrs)
- Mike Schendel (1 hr)
- Dennis Kropp (1 hr)
- **Others present:** Mike Morrow, Megan Hines, Dave Frank and Randy Eide

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Joe Jax, chair.

Acceptance of Minutes: **MOTION** made by Schendel to accept the October 19, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Herrmann. **MOTION** carried.

Public Comments: - None

2023 DNR Urban Forestry Grant Application Update: Hines notified the board that the DNR has selected our project for grant funding. The state is sending out a press release about grant recipients in early December. Work may begin starting January 1, 2023. A work plan will be discussed at the January Urban Forestry Board meeting.

Ordinance/Website Review: Lengthy discussion and review of proposed ordinance changes. Next steps will be for administration to review and get questions answered by the DNR. The draft ordinance will be reviewed again by the Urban Forestry Board at the January meeting. Then the draft ordinance will undergo a legal review by the City attorney. The proposed ordinance will be brought back to the Urban Forestry Board for recommendation for approval to the City Council.

Ash Tree Bench Locations, Maintenance Plan & Project Ideas: City staff to provide a list of benches and locations to Monika to send to Kevin at UW-Stout. Kevin is interested in a class project this spring to develop a maintenance plan for the benches. UW-Stout is also interested in a continued partnership with the Urban Forestry Board on wood projects.

Memoriam John Anshus: Discussion on possible ideas for a memorial to long time Urban Forestry Board member John Anshus who recently passed away. The family likes the lake bank as a possible location. Another possible location is in Sanna Park. Dave Frank will discuss this with the family in regards to a bench, memorial location and tree species to plant. Discussion on the possibility of including this memorial during an Arbor Day celebration in the spring. Further discussion will occur at the January Urban Forestry Board meeting.

Items for Discussion Only: None.

Urban Forester Report:

- **Fall 2022 Tree Planting Progress:** Morrow updated the board that 143 stumps have been ground and 85 trees planted by Community Services staff this fall.
- **2022/23 Winter Pruning Progress:** Pruning will begin in Zone 3 – the Elmwood Addition area on the City's east side.

City Council Report:

A public hearing and potential approval of the City general fund operating budget will occur at the November 21, 2022 City Council meeting. The Urban Forestry budget remains fully funded along with an additional \$5,000 to cover the cash match for the urban forestry grant application. A rezoning request for a vacant lot next to Culvers will be discussed at the December Plan Commission meeting. The City has created a new tax increment district, TID 17, which includes areas in the industrial park down to south of Dairyland Rd. This will be a mixed use TID with industrial, commercial and residential properties.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 18, 2023 in City Hall Room 58 at 1:00 p.m.

Items for Next Meeting: Ash Bench tree locations & UW-Stout class project, Urban Forestry Grant & work plan discussion, John Anshus Memorial/Arbor Day Celebration, Ordinance review.

Adjournment: There being no further business, **MOTION** made by Dennis Kropp, seconded by Mike Schendel to adjourn at 2:11 pm. **MOTION** carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megen Hines
Environmental Program Coordinator